

CLAIMS

1. Detergent particles obtained by a process comprising the step of dry-neutralizing base particles comprising a water-soluble solid alkali inorganic  
5 substance (A) with a liquid acid precursor (B) of a non-soap anionic surfactant, wherein the base particles are obtained by a spray-drying method, and wherein the base particles contain the component (A) in an amount of equal to or greater than 4 times the amount equivalent for neutralizing the component (B) and have an average particle size of from 150 to 400  $\mu\text{m}$ .

10 2. Base particles having an average particle size of from 150 to 400  $\mu\text{m}$ , comprising 20 to 80% by weight of a water-soluble solid alkali inorganic substance.

15 3. A process for preparing detergent particles comprising the steps of:  
(a): preparing a slurry comprising a water-soluble solid alkali inorganic substance (A) in an amount equal to or greater than 4 times the amount equivalent for neutralizing a liquid acid precursor (B) of a non-soap anionic surfactant to be added in step (c);  
20 (b): spray-drying the slurry obtained in step (a) to give base particles; and  
(c): mixing the liquid acid precursor (B) with the base particles obtained in step (b) and dry-neutralizing the resulting mixture.

25 4. The process for preparing detergent particles according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

- (d) adding a fluidizing aid (C) to the detergent particles obtained in step (c), thereby surface-modifying the detergent particles.

5. A detergent composition comprising the detergent particles as defined in  
5 claim 1.